for alround development of the tea industry and trade. Such suggestions are considered on merits in consultation with the concerned agencies and decisions taken. The exporters of tea are already enjoying some of the concessions such as (1) loan assistance in foreign exchange for brand promotion; (2) excise duty exemption on tea bags; (3) rebate or excise duty at the rate of 50 ps/150 ps per kg. on export of bulk tea; (4) full rebate of additional excise duty on packet tea exports, etc.

Import of Cashew from India by Japan

184. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item entitled "India offers quality cashews for Japanese Import" in the daily *Business & Political Observer*, New Delhi, dated 28 June, 1991; indicating that in response to the request from the Chairman of the Cashew Export Promotion Council of India to promote import of roasted and salted cashews in consumer packs to the six member 'Cashew nut Survey delegation', the delegation has suggested the need for stable and competitive prices to promote consumption of cashew kernels;

(b) whether in view of significant potential for promotion of India cashews as snack/health food in Japan, Government plan to aid Indian cashew exports through development of an international price stabilization scheme/financing of market promotion activities in Japan; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The suggestion of the Japanese delegation was that stable and competitive prices, as in the case of almost from USA, would facilitate exports of plain cashew kernels to Japan. Hence a reserve pool of cashew kernels should be maintained on the pattern of almond growers of the USA. However, while USA is the main supplier of almonds in the world market, India is only one of the principal suppliers of cashew in the international market, while the kernel prices are largely influenced by America, the largest market for cashew. However, the recent exchange rate adjustments and the EXIM scrip scheme are likely to have a beneficial impact in promoting exports of cashew to the world market including Japan. Government has, from time to time, financed participation in trade fairs for promotion of cashew exports to Japan.

Action against Principal of Nehru Homoeopathic Medical College

185. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an enquiry against Principal of Nehru Homoeopathic Medical College and Hospital, Defence Colony, New Delhi for indulging in private practice has been conducted; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and action taken if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI): (a) and (b) In 1987 a complaint was received by the Delhi Administration against Dr. V. K. Gupta, principal, Nehru Homoeopathic Medical College, New Delhi alleging that he was doing private practice. An enquiry was conducted on the above allegation by the Delhi Administration. Action will be taken by the Delhi Administration on the enquiry report as per rules.

186. [*Transferred to 25th July, 1991*]

Pollution by A.C.C. Factory at Chandrapur in Maharashtra

187. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the A.C.C. cement plant at Chandrapur in Maharashtra has polluted the land surrounding the factory;